

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2021, IN THE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING AT 7:30PM

Present: Councillors Henry Clark (Chair), Emma Crowson, David Fovargue and Anne Tuley.
Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk)

68. Public question time: no members of the public were present.
69. Members accepted apologies from Cllrs Jackson and Prior.
70. No declarations of interest were recorded.
71. The minutes of the previous meeting dated 20th September were approved and signed as a true record.
72. Correspondence:
- 72.1 Members noted possible funding opportunities from the Communities Fund in partnership with Cambridgeshire Community Foundation. The possibility of a survey to improve community engagement was considered but timescales too tight.
Cllr Clark to consider and liaise with Steve Harknett at the City Council.
- 72.2 Remembrance Day – it was agreed that poppy wreaths would be laid around the Village Monument.
Cllr Jackson to lay wreaths, with Cllr Tuley assisting.
73. Planning:
- 73.1 Consideration given to the amended application 21/00797/HHFUL to rebuild gate pier / garden wall, new driveway gates and new garden wall with railings at 6A The Park, St Pegas Road. Response to include reference to highway restrictions for safety reasons on the original planning application.
Clerk to action.
- 73.2 There were no other planning matters.
74. Village Gateways: Cllr Fovargue advised that a response from Stuart Tough at the City Council had been received but still little progress made. The size of the proposed gates on 3 entries and costs obtained from Glasdon, along with photo mock-ups had been re-sent. It was agreed that an on-site meeting was essential.
Clerk to contact Charlotte Palmer at the City Council accordingly.
- Speed Watch: Data from the VAS on St Pegas Road between 10/08 and 13/10 recorded 46,137 vehicles of which 36.3% (16,563) were above the limit and the fastest recorded at 65mph. Twenty-two months of recordings show 489,000 vehicles of which 30.7% exceeded the 30mph limit. Speed Watch undertaken on 22 September on Deeping Road (inwards) between 8 and 9am recorded 246 vehicles of which 11.38% were over the 40mph limit. 13 vehicles exceeded 50mph, the highest recorded being 62mph. Roy Pettitt wishes to resign as co-ordinator but will continue as a volunteer. Cllrs Crowson and Fovargue will jointly undertake the co-ordinator duties. It appears that data from speed activated signs can now be sent to the Neighbourhood Safer Speeds Team (staffed by the Special Constabulary with funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner) who may consider action.
Cllr Clark to continue research on mobile Vehicle Activated Signs – typically VAS with one-way recording and data collection costs £4,250, more expensive can capture ANR and speed.
Cllrs Clark and Fovargue still to liaise regarding turning the VAS on St Pegas Road.
75. Finance:
- 75.1 The budget review to 31 September was noted.
- 75.2 Approval given for payment of Home Working Allowance in the sum of £20 and salary payment to Mrs A Hankins for October.

- 75.3 Approval given for payment of invoice to PCVS in the sum of £36 for salary service July-Sept.
- 75.4 Approval given for payment of invoice to Mr Harding for grass-cutting during September.
- 75.5 Members approved payment to Peakirk Parochial Church Council in the sum of £765 for a grant towards churchyard maintenance.
- 75.6 Approval given for payment of 58% of Clerk's SLCC Annual Subscription in the sum of £75.40.
76. Maintenance:
- 76.1 A report and recommendations were received from J Bradley Fencing for repairs on the Village Green. Clerk to clarify preservative to be used. Approval given for expenditure up to £250 on this work.
Clerk to obtain further quote for replacement of 2 loose wooden bollards on a like with like basis and a quote for repair to the bollard recently damaged by a Morrisons delivery van.
- 76.2 Cllr Fovargue had undertaken an asset inspection and circulated the log, advising that there was nothing requiring urgent attention apart from the bollards around the village green.
Cllr Fovargue to complete the action required column on the log for completeness.
- 76.3 Cllr Fovargue advised that shrub/ hedges were overhanging the footpath in several places along St Pegas Road.
Clerk to send appropriate letters.
The needles on the path adjacent to Peakirk House required sweeping.
Clerk to request action from the City Council.
- 76.4 Members considered but did not agree the revised cutting regime proposed by Cllr Jackson.
Clerk to seek quote from Mr Harding for 2022/23 grass-cutting season for budgeting purposes on a provisional basis which may be subject to change.
- 76.5 Other maintenance matters:
Bus Shelter - Cllrs Crowson and Tuley volunteered to paint the exterior of the bus shelter with wood preservative. Expenditure authorised for preservative and tools required.
Tree Works – Cllr Prior had submitted recommendations for tree works required in 3 areas of the village. The Clerk advised that the trees on land near to the bus shelter were the responsibility of the City Council. No action was agreed for trees on land at Firdale Close but could be reconsidered in the future.
Clerk to obtain quotes for recommended works to trees on the Village Green.
77. A report from Cllr Jackson of a meeting with a RSPB representative (Tom Lancaster) had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Tuley advised that he is looking into possible development of local sites to increase access to the countryside and for the Fen Edge Area to become a greater part of the JCCP.
78. Climate Emergency Group / John Clare Countryside Project (JCCP): the report had been circulated by Cllr Jackson prior to the meeting. Cllrs Jackson, Crowson and Tuley had hand weeded under the Yew hedge and planted bulbs along the base. It was felt that Peakirk is the poor relation of the JCCP.
79. Allotments – Cllr Clark advised that he had read a lot of information and advice from the Allotment Society.
Clerk to obtain existing allotment holder details.
80. Councillors Reports:
Cllr Clark advised that he had attended (via Zoom) Code of Conduct Training organised by the City Council. Twenty out of a possible 200 councillors attended. The latest Code of Conduct should be adopted and the Head of Legal at the City Council is responsible for code of conduct issues in parish councils.
Clerk to circulate the presentation and case studies.
Cllr Tuley working to arrange an event for village residents on behalf of the Climate Emergency Group.
81. To note the date of the next meeting – Monday 15th November (budget and Christmas lights to be included on the agenda).

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:25pm.